

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07
LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 SS-15 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
USIA-06 L-03 /075 W
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R 161638Z JUN 77
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8305
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
USMISSION UN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 4848

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PLAB, ILO, EG
SUBJ: EGYPTIAN INTERPRETATION OF ILC ACTION ON ARAB/ISRAELI
ISSUE

REF: GENEVA 4847

1. IN JUNE 15 ILC PLENARY, EGYPTIAN EMB EL-SHAFEI, SPEAKING
AS EGYPTIAN GOVT DELEGATE, PROVIDED HIS INTERPRETATION OF
CONFERENCE ACTION ON JUNE 9 TO RESOLVE ARAB/ISRAELI ISSUE.
TERMING CONFERENCE ACTION AS REITERATION OF ITS RIGHT TO
FOLLOW UP ON 1974 RESOLUTION ON ISRAEL, HE THANKED CONFERENCE
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PRESIDENT FOR ALLOWING CONFERENCE TO FOLLOW "ITS RIGHTFUL
CAUSE OF ACTION."

2. HE THEN INDICATED EGYPT'S UNDERSTANDING OF JUNE 9
AGREEMENT AS FOLLOWS:

(1) 1974 RESOLUTION CONTINUES TO BE VALID AND NOT YET

FULLY IMPLEMENTED. HE LOOKS FORWARD TO EFFORTS OF DG TO FULLY IMPLEMENT RESOLUTION;

(2) EGYPT FULLY PREPARED TO COOPERATE WITH DG IN HIS EFFORTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH ORIGINAL 1974 RESOLUTION;

(3) CONFERENCE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT WITH RESPECT TO DG'S LETTER NULLIFIES GB DECISION IN MARCH.

3. AMB. EL-SHAFEI CONCLUDED BY STATING THAT EGYPT'S POSITION WAS BASED ON FOLLOWING TWO POINTS: THAT ILO SHOULD NOT ADMIT THAT IT CANNOT ASSIST ARAB WORKERS IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES IN ACHIEVING EQUAL RIGHTS AND THAT ILO MUST BE ABLE TO CONTINUE TO FULFILL ITS MISSION.

4. COMMENT: ABOVE INTERPRETATION OF JUNE 9 ACTION ADVANCED BY AMB. EL-SHAFEI, WHO HAS ACTED AS EFFECTIVE HEAD OF EGYPTIAN DELEGATION (DESPITE BRIEF APPEARANCE OF MINISTER BULTIYYA LAST WEEK), REFLECTS APPARENT TURNABOUT IN HIS POSITION. ACCORDING TO OTHER ARAB DELEGATES, HE FIRMLY OPPOSED ACCEPTANCE OF DG LETTER AND ARGUED FOR INTRODUCTION OF ARAB/ISRAELI RESOLUTION AT CONFERENCE UP TO TIME WHEN ARABS ACQUIESCED IN DG LETTER ON JUNE 9. MOREOVER, HIS INTERPRETATION CONTRASTS WITH OTHER ARAB DELEGATES' INITIAL VIEWS, IN WAKE OF JUNE 9 ACTION, THAT OUTCOME WAS COMPROMISE CONSENSUS AS WELL AS WITH SUBSEQUENT PLENARY SPEECHES BY SOME HARDLINE ARABS CRITICIZING THE DG FOR BURYING 1974 RESOLUTION. NONETHELESS, EL-SHAFEI STATEMENTS, CONFIDENTIAL

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WHICH WILL PRESUMABLY BE WIDELY DISSEMINATED IN ARAB WORLD THROUGH CAIRO PRESS MEDIA, ARE LIKELY TO GAIN CURRENCY AS ACCEPTED ARAB VERSION OF ILC'S ACTION ON ARAB/ISRAELI ISSUE IN MONTHS AHEAD.SORENSEN

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Sent Date: 16-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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